

In The Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for transferring data, comprising:
an imaging device configured to capture said data into data buffers, said imaging device associating a user identifier with said data;
a data destination configured to receive said data and said user identifier from said imaging device for subsequent access by a system user, said data destination categorizing said data by referencing said user identifier; and
a transfer manager of said imaging device for transferring said data from said imaging device to said data destination, said transfer manager monitoring said data buffers, and transferring said data in a data transfer procedure if a total amount of said data stored in said data buffers is greater than a predetermined threshold amount that is not subject to specific threshold-selection limitations freely selectable from any numerical value, said predetermined threshold amount being equal to said total amount of said data currently stored in said data buffers, said transfer manager performing a repeat transfer procedure whenever said data destination fails to successfully receive said data, said transfer manager continuing to perform additional ones of said repeat transfer procedure until said data is successfully transferred to said data destination, said transfer manager automatically erasing said data from said data buffers only after said data is successfully transferred to said data destination.
2. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said transfer manager utilizes a wireless communications technique to transfer said data over a wireless network from said imaging device to said data destination.

3. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said imaging device is implemented as a digital camera device, and wherein said data includes image data and related identification information.
4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein an information source provides identification information to said imaging device for routing said data during a data transfer procedure, said identification information including said user identifier for identifying said imaging device and a destination identifier for identifying said data destination.
5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 4 wherein said imaging device captures said data using a capture subsystem, and then temporarily stores said data into data buffers, said data buffers being implemented using a ~~sub-standard~~ limited memory-size configuration because of said transfer manager being able to perform said data transfer procedure to offload said data to said data destination.
6. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 5 wherein said transfer manager performs an arbitration procedure with a wireless communications network to transfer said data to said data destination, said transfer manager being authorized by said wireless communications network to perform said data transfer procedure when sufficient bandwidth is available on said wireless communications network for transferring a specified amount of said data.
7. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 6 wherein said transfer manager monitors said data buffers, and automatically initiates said arbitration procedure whenever said data stored in said data buffers is greater than said predetermined threshold amount.
8. (Original) The system of claim 6 wherein said transfer manager initiates said arbitration procedure in response to a system-user authorization event that is caused by a system user activating a user interface on said imaging device.

9. (Original) The system of claim 6 wherein said transfer manager transfers said data from said data buffers to said wireless communications network for transmitting to said data destination.

10. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9 wherein said transfer manager and a display manager provide status information regarding said data transfer procedure and said arbitration procedure by utilizing a user interface of said imaging device.

11. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9 wherein said transfer manager, because of bandwidth limitations of said wireless communications network, performs an initial partial data transfer procedure to transfer only an initial portion of said data to said data destination, said transfer manager subsequently repeating said arbitration procedure and then performing a final partial data transfer procedure to transfer a final portion of said data to said data destination when sufficient additional bandwidth is available.

12. (Original) The system of claim 9 wherein said wireless communications network routes said data from said imaging device to said data destination, said wireless communication network identifying said data destination by referring to said destination identifier from said identification information.

13. (Original) The system of claim 12 wherein a controller of said data destination sends a transfer confirmation to said imaging device by said wireless communications network after successfully receiving said data and said identification information.

14. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein said transfer manager and a display manager display said transfer confirmation on a user interface of said imaging device, said imaging device also erasing said data from said data buffers in response to said transfer confirmation.

15. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12 wherein a controller of said data destination sends an error message to said imaging device by said wireless communications network after determining that said data and said identification information have not been successfully received, said transfer manager responsively repeating said data transfer procedure to retransmit said data from said data buffers to said data destination until said data transfer procedure is successfully completed.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15 wherein said transfer manager and a display manager display said error message on a user interface of said imaging device, said imaging device continuing to store said data in said data buffers until subsequently receiving a transfer confirmation from said data destination.

17. (Original) The system of claim 9 wherein a controller of said data destination analyzes said user identifier from said identification information to identify at least one of said system user and said imaging device, said controller then associating said data with said at least one of said system user and said imaging device.

18. (Original) The system of claim 17 wherein said controller stores said data into a data file location that uniquely correspond with, and is identifiable with, said at least one of said system user and said imaging device.

19. (Original) The system of claim 18 wherein said system user subsequently accesses and utilizes said data from said data file location of said data destination by communicating with said data destination with an electronic data-access device.
20. (Original) The system of claim 19 wherein said system user accesses said data file location of said data destination through a distributed computer network by utilizing a personal computer device.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for transferring data, comprising the steps of:

capturing said data into data buffers by utilizing an imaging device that also associates a user identifier with said data;

utilizing a data destination to receive said data and said user identifier for subsequent access by a system user, said data destination categorizing said data by referencing said user identifier; and

transferring said data from said imaging device to said data destination by utilizing a transfer manager of said imaging device, said transfer manager monitoring said data buffers, and transferring said data in a data transfer procedure if a total amount of said data stored in said data buffers is greater than a predetermined threshold amount that is not subject to specific threshold-selection limitations freely selectable from any numerical value, said predetermined threshold amount being equal to said total amount of said data currently stored in said data buffers;

performing a repeat transfer procedure with said transfer manager whenever said data destination fails to successfully receive said data, said transfer manager continuing to perform additional ones of said repeat transfer procedure until said data is successfully transferred to said data destination, said transfer manager automatically erasing said data from said data buffers only after said data is successfully transferred to said data destination.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein said transfer manager utilizes a wireless communications technique to transfer said data over a wireless network from said imaging device to said data destination.

23. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein said imaging device is implemented as a digital camera device, and wherein said data includes image data and related identification information.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21 wherein an information source provides identification information to said imaging device for routing said data during a data transfer procedure, said identification information including said user identifier for identifying said imaging device and a destination identifier for identifying said data destination.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24 wherein said imaging device captures said data using a capture subsystem, and then temporarily stores said data into data buffers, said data buffers being implemented using a ~~sub-standard~~ limited memory-size configuration because of said transfer manager being able to perform said data transfer procedure to offload said data to said data destination.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 wherein said transfer manager performs an arbitration procedure with a wireless communications network to transfer said data to said data destination, said transfer manager being authorized by said wireless communications network to perform said data transfer procedure when sufficient bandwidth is available on said wireless communications network for transferring a specified amount of said data.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein said transfer manager monitors said data buffers, and automatically initiates said arbitration procedure whenever said data stored in said data buffers is greater than said predetermined threshold amount.

28. (Original) The method of claim 26 wherein said transfer manager initiates said arbitration procedure in response to a system-user authorization event that is caused by a system user activating a user interface on said imaging device.

29. (Original) The method of claim 26 wherein said transfer manager transfers said data from said data buffers to said wireless communications network for transmitting to said data destination.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 wherein said transfer manager and a display manager provide status information regarding said data transfer procedure and said arbitration procedure by utilizing a user interface of said imaging device.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 wherein said transfer manager, because of bandwidth limitations of said wireless communications network, performs an initial partial data transfer procedure to transfer only an initial portion of said data to said data destination, said transfer manager subsequently repeating said arbitration procedure and then performing a final partial data transfer procedure to transfer a final portion of said data to said data destination when sufficient additional bandwidth is available.

32. (Original) The method of claim 29 wherein said wireless communications network routes said data from said imaging device to said data destination, said wireless communication network identifying said data destination by referring to said destination identifier from said identification information.

33. (Original) The method of claim 32 wherein a controller of said data destination sends a transfer confirmation to said imaging device by said wireless communications network after successfully receiving said data and said identification information.

34. (Original) The method of claim 33 wherein said transfer manager and a display manager display said transfer confirmation on a user interface of said imaging device, said imaging device also erasing said data from said data buffers in response to said transfer confirmation.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 wherein a controller of said data destination sends an error message to said imaging device by said wireless communications network after determining that said data and said identification information have not been successfully received, said transfer manager responsively repeating said data transfer procedure to retransmit said data from said data buffers to said data destination until said data transfer procedure is successfully completed.

36. (Original) The method of claim 35 wherein said transfer manager and a display manager display said error message on a user interface of said imaging device, said imaging device continuing to store said data in said data buffers until subsequently receiving a transfer confirmation from said data destination.

37. (Original) The method of claim 29 wherein a controller of said data destination analyzes said user identifier from said identification information to identify at least one of said system user and said imaging device, said controller then associating said data with said at least one of said system user and said imaging device.

38. (Original) The method of claim 37 wherein said controller stores said data into a data file location that uniquely correspond with, and is identifiable with, said at least one of said system user and said imaging device.

39. (Original) The method of claim 38 wherein said system user subsequently accesses and utilizes said data from said data file location of said data destination by communicating with said data destination with an electronic data-access device.

40. (Original) The method of claim 39 wherein said system user accesses said data file location of said data destination through a distributed computer network by utilizing a personal computer device.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21 wherein said imaging device is implemented without removable storage media capabilities.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21 wherein said imaging device includes a conversion software module for converting said data from a first format that is compatible with said imaging device into a second format that is compatible with said data destination, said first format being incompatible with said data destination.

43. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein said transfer manager transmits said data from said imaging device to said data destination by utilizing a cellular telephone network.

44. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium comprising program instructions for transferring data by performing the steps of:

capturing said data into data buffers by utilizing an imaging device;
utilizing a data destination to receive said data for subsequent access by a system user; and

transferring said data from said imaging device to said data destination by utilizing a transfer manager that automatically transfers said data if said data stored in said data buffers exceeds a predetermined threshold amount, said transfer manager automatically erasing said data from said data buffers only after said data is successfully transferred to said data destination.

45. (Currently Amended) A system for transferring data, comprising:
means for capturing said data into data buffers;
means for receiving said data for subsequent access by a system user; and
means for transferring said data from said means for capturing to said
means for receiving, said means for transferring automatically
erasing said data from said data buffers only after said data is
successfully transferred to said means for receiving.

46. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 wherein a system user
manually instructs said transfer manager to transfer said data to said data
destination in a non-wireless manner by storing said data to a removable storage
device that is then coupled to said data destination.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21 wherein a system user
manually instructs said transfer manager to transfer said data to said data
destination in a non-wireless manner by transmitting said data through a hard-
wired physical connection.

48. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein said data destination includes an
Internet-based image service website.

49. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein said data destination includes an
Internet service provider.

50. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein said data destination includes a
photo processing station.

51. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein said data destination includes a
network server computer.

52. (New) The method of claim 24 wherein said identification information includes a camera identifier and a user account number.

53. (New) The method of claim 24 wherein said identification information includes a destination routing number.

54. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein said transfer manager transfers said data to a host computer via a Universal Serial Bus connection.

55. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein said imaging device wirelessly receives status information and control information from an external device.

56. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein a plurality of peripheral devices each separately utilize additional transfer managers to perform respective data transfer procedures to provide corresponding transfer data to said data destination, at least some of said plurality of peripheral devices not being implemented as camera devices.